Please File

SCOTT M. MATHESON Governor

GORDON E. HARMSTON Executive Director, NATURAL RESOURCES

CLEON B. FEIGHT Director



STATE OF UTAH

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING 1588 West North Temple Salt Lake City, Utah 84116 (801) 533-5771

March 13, 1979

OIL, GAS, AND MINING BOARD

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J. Paul Mathias 8871 East Easter Place Englewood, Colorado 80112

Dear Mr. Mathias:

Enclosed please find the Colt Mesa Mining/Chinook Construction Ltd. notice of intent to mine. This notice was published in May, 1978 in the Salt Lake Tribune, Deseret News and Emery County Progress Leader. Notice was also sent to Wayne Smith of Green River in that Mr. Smith was the only landowner which Colt Mesa Mining/Chinook Construction represented to the Division as being affected by the operation. Apparently the company overlooked your interest when they made such a representation.

The Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining presently holds a \$1,000.00 bond on the uranium operator which secures certain revegetation operations to which the company has committed. At one time the Division held a more substantial bond on the uranium operator, however this obligation has been reduced as Colt Mesa Mining/Chinook Construction have completed the reclamation activities required by the State.

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In the opinion of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining, the uranium operator is in compliance with reclamation requirements of the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act. The issue of the Company's commission of notice to you and your father could be brought before the Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining if you so desire. However, the remedies which the Board could extend to you at this late date are almost non-existant. Perhaps your best recourse at this time is to pursue an action for damages against the operator, Colt Mesa Mining/Chinook Construction Ltd. Such a civil action would be brought in a court of law and not before the administrative Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining.

Sincerely,

DENISE A. DRAGOO

SPECIAL ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL for

NATURAL RESOURCE AGENCIES

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